

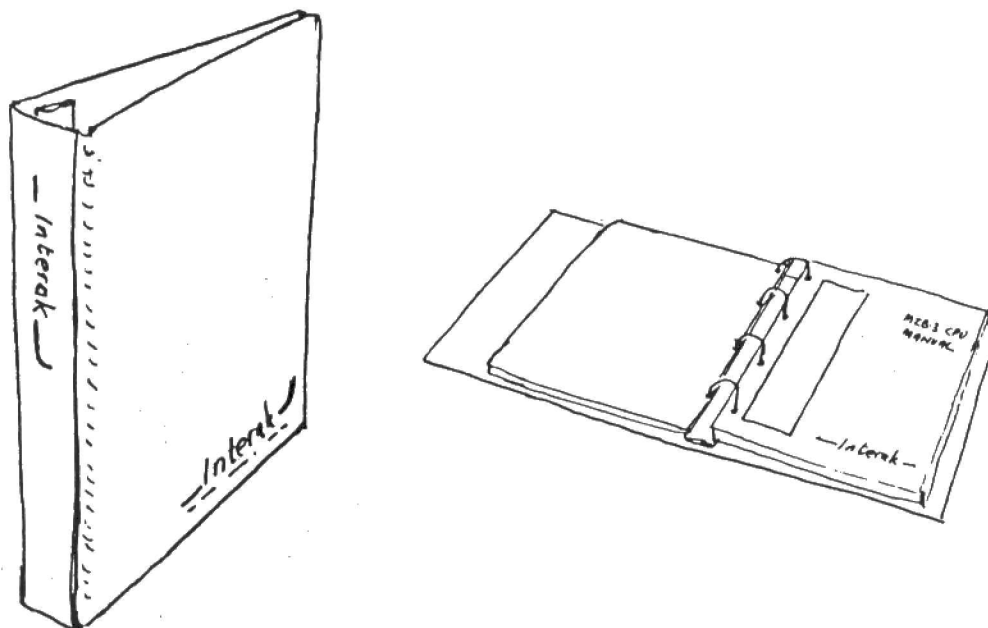
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Interak 1

DE-LUXE
BINDER

Greenbank Electronics
Telephone: 051-645 3391

De-luxe 4-hole Ring Binder



De-luxe 4-hole Ring Binder

FEATURES

- * 25mm capacity (= approx 200 sheets).
- * Grained "Leather Effect" brown pvc cover.
- * Padded cover front, back, and spine.
- * Clear pocket with thumb notch on spine.
- * Gold-blocked Front Cover Title.
- * Gold-blocked "Interak" on spine.
- * 4 "D" shaped rings.
- * Rings on standard 80 mm pitch.
- * Suitable for "A4" paper (210 x 297mm) or Computer printout (8.5" x 11").
- * Rings mounted on back cover, so papers lie flat.
- * Thick board covers with welded seams.
- * Typically holds several Manuals (dependent on size).
- * Binder Size 505 x 310 x 45 mm.

DESCRIPTION

The "Interak de-luxe 4-ring binder" is the recommended binder for the Interak manuals (which are printed in "A4" format ie 210 x 297mm), but it has been made slightly wider than a standard A4 binder to

accommodate computer printout (8.5" x 11"), which is the size standard 9.5" x 11" paper becomes after the sprocket holes are removed.

No expense has been spared in the design of this binder; quite a considerable time was devoted to developing its specification to ensure that it looks well and performs well.

Marbles

Unless the reader has experience of Interak and its design principles he might think that we have lost our marbles in going on so much about the quality of the binder for the manuals - after all the computer will work just as well if the binder is of a padded leather effect or sky blue pink.

We think this more a psychological matter than anything else. Too often computer designers get carried away with what is called "value engineering" - why use 6 screws if 4 will do, for that matter why use any screws at all if the computer can be glued together, and so on and so forth. Although we are no special fans of ex-president Jimmy Carter in the USA, we certainly like his motto "Why not the Best?" If we are going to have a binder for manuals then why shouldn't it be the best money can buy? (That isn't to say these binders are excessively expensive - we have seen much inferior ones at much higher prices in some very well known office stationery suppliers.)

The sort of person or organisation which uses Interak is one which appreciates quality, and will want the documentation bound in a way which will reflect this and can be proudly displayed on their bookshelf.

Incidentally, for the benefit of those organisations who are using the Interak cards as part of some system which they then sell to a third party with much value added, the binders do not carry the name of our company at all. The gold blocked wording on the cover is "Interak Modular Computer System", and on the spine "Interak". Therefore the system documentation can be presented to the customer in these binders, with no danger that the customer will deduce that the system was in fact designed by someone else. Furthermore, as mentioned above, the provision of expensive looking gold blocked binders will (correctly) inspire the customer with confidence that he is being supplied with a system of superior quality.

Gin Trap

The loose-leaf format of the documentation was introduced as the old saying has it 'by popular demand'. With loose-leaf binders the user can organise the documentation in any way he fancies to suit his current purposes; for example software in one binder and hardware in another, or manufacturer's data sheets in one, his own notes in another, and so on. During the construction or testing phase of the system, all of the circuit diagrams, parts lists and component overlay diagram can be removed from the binder, to be read in conjunction with the text. We have all had to struggle in other systems with the difficulties of holding a gin trap of a manual open with one hand, with the other hand keeping our place in the diagrams section, and the soldering iron bit between our teeth.

The choice of size was most difficult - the trend in computer documentation now seems to be towards "A5" size, ie half the size we use. We think that the great enthusiasm of the computer industry for smaller size manuals is not entirely altruistic. Other things being equal, A5 manuals are cheaper than A4, so there is one obvious reason why most suppliers favour it. (Fair enough if vast quantities of manuals have to be shipped by air across the globe, which is often the case nowadays.) But from our point of view we see only disadvantage in the smaller size. Clearly if the same amount of information is to be included, the A5 size will result either in more sheets, or smaller print. More sheets is a bad idea in a ring binder because it necessitates bigger rings carrying a larger weight of paper. Those people who have formed an opinion that they hate ring binders, often have formed it as the result of pushing great weights of ripping paper round overloaded binders. So we think the number of sheets should be minimised by using full size A4 paper.

Bifocal

We ourselves resist the use of smaller print at all costs. The Interak system is not a youngster's system. Its design and philosophy is such that it appeals mainly to individuals or organisations who have gained wisdom over the years. Interak purchasers are wise old birds who don't buy something because they've heard it's the best thing since sliced bread (such a purchase often turns out to be crumbier than they thought!), but make their own decision based on all the facts. Thus it is clear that the population Interak purchasers will contain more than the usual proportion of bifocal spectacle wearers, and thus prefer the manuals to be printed as large as possible. A final benefit of the A4 size is that it is more likely to match material which the user will produce himself. Any computer printouts and notes the user produces himself are hardly likely to be on miniature size A5 paper, and so would sit uneasily bound with the manufacturer's documentation if this were A5. So "A4" it is!

No Joke

For similar reasons of convenience we also resisted the temptation to produce great block busters of binders. Too much paper in a ring binder is no joke, unless you like laughing at people with broken wrists crawling on the floor retrieving thousands of sheets of ripped and creased paper. We carried out some

experiments on this, and we decided that 25 mm capacity was about the maximum for something which could be in regular use. This size can typically accommodate several of our manuals, which means that the cost of the binder can be spread.

D Rings

There are 4 binding rings, mounted on the back cover, shaped in the form of a letter 'D'. The benefit of the D shape is that the contents of the binder lie in a neat pile when the binder is used. When pages are bound with conventional 'O' shaped rings they tend to slide down the rings and crease; if there is a large quantity of paper you have to negotiate each sheet individually round the rings if you want to browse quickly through the manual. The benefit of the mounting on the back cover rather than the spine is that the pages immediately lie flat and well-behaved on opening; with spine mounted rings, the pages have to be pushed round the rings before you can start reading the manual (the wear and tear to the pages and your nerves here is minimal, but we don't see any need to suffer any inconvenience no matter how trivial if it can be avoided by a little care in design).

The spacing between the rings is the standard 80 mm. This places the top and bottom rings a good 240 mm apart and greatly reduces the chances of the pages ripping if they are handled roughly. Of course so would a 3 ring binder (as previously used on many early American computer manual binders) but our objection to the 3 ring binder is that it does not maintain the standard 80 mm spacing. The great beauty of 80 mm is that this is also the standard spacing of 2 ring binders, such as the "Lever Arch" binders which are used in many offices. 2 ring Lever Arch binders may be preferred by our impecunious younger users whilst they are waiting for their eyesight to deteriorate to the stage where they need bifocals, which, as explained in an earlier paragraph, will also bring great wisdom and a love of Interak computers and Interak binders. With a little bit of care a standard 80 mm 2 hole perforator can be used to make the 4 holes required for our binders, so this is not the problem it would be if 3 ring binders were used.

Padded

The cover is padded on the front, back and spine. We will come clean here and say that this was specified mainly because the padding adds considerably to the impression of quality when the binder is handled, however the official purpose of the padding is so that the cover remains unmarked when heavy weights, and sharp objects such as pliers, screwdrivers and the like are thrust against it (as if you would!) The binders are constructed with board covers of appropriate thickness to stop them breaking in half the first time you use them, and the pvc grained leather effect covering material is welded at the edges.

Thumb Notch

Because the enthusiastic user will have more than one binder, some means are needed to distinguish several similar binders on a bookshelf. (We know that binders are always found in quantity - our hardest job is selling the first one; after you have received your first we can almost guarantee you will come back for more!) To suit this purpose a clear '3" pvc pocket with thumb notch has been provided on the spine, into which an identification card can be inserted, eg, Software Vol 1, Software Vol 2, etc.

ORDERING DETAILS

Order as "~~IBLBIND~~", price each 4.75 + VAT.

Special offer:

"~~IBLBIND3~~", 3 binders for 9.99 + VAT.